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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: BIOREDUCTIVELY-ACTIVATED PRODRUGS

(2)

A3

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a compound of formula (1), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein: Ar is a substituted aryl or heteroaryl group bearing at least one nitro or azido group or is a group of formula (2) or (3) wherein R₁, and R2 which may be the same or different are independently optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted alkynyl, aryl, COR3 or, together with the intervening carbon atom, form an optionally substituted heterocycloalkyl or carbocyclic ring; L is -OC(O)- or -OP(O)(OR₆)-; n is0or1; X is 0, S, NR₇ or a single covalent bond; R₃ is OR₄ or NR₄R₅; R₄, R₅, R₆ and R₇ are each independently hydrogen or optionally substituted alkyl or, where R₇ is NR₄R₅, R₄ and R₅ can be joined to form, together with the intervening nitrogen atom, a heterocycloalkyl ring; Rs is hydrogen, alkoxy or diatkylaminoalkyl; Ro is optionally substituted $alkyl; R_{10} \ is \ hydrogen, \ alkyl, \ alkoxy \ or \ dialkylaminoalkyl; R_{11} \ and \ R_{12} \ are \ independently \ hydrogen, \ alkyl, \ alkoxy, \ thio atkoxy, \ amino, \ hydrogen, \ alkyl, \ alkoxy, \ thio atkoxy, \ amino, \ hydrogen, \ alkyl, \ alkoxy, \ thio atkoxy, \ amino, \ hydrogen, \ alkyl, \ alkoxy, \ thio atkoxy, \ amino, \ hydrogen, \ alkyl, \ alkoxy, \ amino, \ alkyl, \$ alkylamino, dialkylamino, morpholino, piperidino, piperazino or l-aziridinyl; A is an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl ring; and Dr is a moiety such that DrXH represents a cytotoxic or cytostatic compound.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int: nal Application No PCI/GB2004/001330

A. CLASSIF IPC 7	CO7D333/36 CO7D417/04 CO7D233/5	4 A61K31/445								
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC										
B. FIELDS SEARCHED										
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C07D A61K										
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched										
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)										
EPO-In	ternal, CHEM ABS Data, WPI Data									
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT										
Category °	rant passages Relevant to claim No.									
х	WO 02/06279 A (OXIGENE INC) 24 January 2002 (2002-01-24) Compound III, page 19; claim 1	1–31								
X	WO 02/50007 A (CANCER RES VENTURES HADFIELD JOHN ANTHONY (GB); HEPWOI AN) 27 June 2002 (2002-06-27) claim 1	S LTD ; 1-31 RTH LUÇY								
Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X Patent family members are listed in annex.										
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filling date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is clied to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		"T' later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&' document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the International search report								
	31 August 2004	16 2 11 2004								
Name and	mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Wolf, C								

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

.....national application No. PCT/GB2004/001330

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
see additional sheet
As a result of the prior review under R. 40.2(e) PCT, null additional fees are to be refunded.
As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. X No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 1-31 (part)
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-31

The claims have been searched on the basis of DrXH being combretastatin A4

2. claims: 1-31

The second invention is (according to preferred embodiments claimed in claim 21) the subject matter of claims 1-31 on the basis that DrXH is etoposide.

3. claims: 1-31

The third invention is (according to preferred embodiments claimed in claim 21) the subject matter of claims 1-31 on the basis that DrXH is cytarabine.

4. claims: 1-31

The fourth invention is (according to preferred embodiments claimed in claim 21) the subject matter of claims 1-31 on the basis that DrXH is 6-mercaptopurine.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inte nal Application No PC I / GB 2004/001330

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